

## **CHAPTER NO. 554**

### **SENATE BILL NO. 3454**

**By Kurita, Beavers, Black, Bowers, Bryson, Burchett, Burks, Cohen, Cooper, Crowe, Crutchfield, Finney, Ford, Fowler, Harper, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Jackson, Ketron, Kilby, Kyle, McLeary, McNally, Miller, Norris, Curtis S. Person, Jr., Ramsey, Southerland, Tracy, Williams, Woodson, Mr. Speaker Wilder**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 3107**

**By Phillip Johnson**

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 49 in Cheatham County in honor of the late Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr., Tennessee Army National Guard.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr., Tennessee Army National Guard, who was killed in the line of duty while serving in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Reese followed the patriotic tradition for which Ashland City, Cheatham County, and the Volunteer State are renowned by serving with distinction as an officer in the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, like thousands of others of this nation's sons and daughters, Sergeant Reese did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and liberty and to free the Iraqi people; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr., served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the Tennessee Army National Guard, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Gary Lee Reese, Jr.'s, dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers and his country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, the Cheatham County Legislative Body has petitioned this body to name the new bridge spanning Sycamore Creek on State Route 49 in their county to permanently commemorate the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of the late Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr., Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the bridge spanning Sycamore Creek on State Route 49 in Cheatham County is hereby designated as the "Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr., Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr., Tennessee Army National Guard.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Sergeant Gary Lee Reese, Jr. Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 17, 2006

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2006

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR